

## Two charged after chase

● TWO men have been charged in connection with a police chase in Leigh. Officers carried out a pursuit in London Road at about 4.20am on Tuesday.

A 33-year-old man from Southend was arrested and later charged with dangerous driving, drink-driving, using a vehicle without insurance, failing to stop and driving not in accordance with a licence.

A 26-year-old man from Ilford was arrested and later charged with permitting the use of a vehicle with no insurance and permitting the driving of a vehicle otherwise than in accordance with a licence. The men will appear at Southend Magistrates' Court on Wednesday.

## Farm shop application

● A FARM shop has applied to have a 24-hour off-licence.

However, bosses at Barleylands Farm Shop, in Southend Road, Billericay, say it will only open and sell alcohol for 24 hours over the Christmas period.

Manager Levi Walden said: "We have extended opening over Christmas, but haven't decided the exact dates yet."

Any public representations must be received by the council by October 20.

Contact licensing officer Roy Robinson on 01268 294676.

## Free family day of fun

● A COMMUNITY group is planning its next free family fun day.

Southend Community-in-Harmony Partnership will be holding its 2011 fun day on the afternoon of Sunday, June 19, at Southend High School for Boys, in Prittlewell Chase, Prittlewell.

The charity's annual meeting will be held this Monday, October 11, from 7pm at Porters, the mayor's official residence in Southchurch Road, Southend.

To find out more about the partnership or become a member, visit [www.southendcommunity-in-harmony.org.uk](http://www.southendcommunity-in-harmony.org.uk)

● A DEVELOPER hopes to build two semi-detached houses in Clay Hill Road, Maldon. Bandsite properties, of Hornchurch, planning permission but

## GONE...



■ Back to nature – the traveller pitch after the Boswell family removed the mobile home

Pictures: MAXINE CLARKE BA26618

# Traveller family evict themselves

- They do right thing after losing legal battle
- Bulldozers have now cleared the site

By JON AUSTIN  
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A TRAVELLER family living at the illegal Hovefields camp have "evicted" themselves – even demolishing their former site.

All the other families were either evicted by force or left deserted caravan pitches, some times including empty buildings, which Basildon Council had to pay to remove.

However, a more considerate approach was taken by the Boswells, who spared the council the cost of sending in bailiffs, by practically evicting themselves from the site in Wickford.

After failing to secure a High Court judicial review of their looming eviction, the family

**I am pleased this traveller family have taken it upon themselves to**

## BEFORE



■ Neat and tidy – the Boswell family's mobile home, which they have now demolished

moved out of their mobile home and outbuildings and brought in bulldozers to demolish the hard-standing and mound the plot up against reoccupation.

Council leader Tony Ball said he was pleased the family had decided to leave and comply with enforcement notices which had demanded the site was restored to its original green belt status.

He said: "I am pleased this traveller family have taken it upon themselves to vacate the

site. It is unfortunate it has taken so long and was further delayed by an attempt to challenge the council's decision to clear the site."

The Boswells were protected from the council's latest eviction operation in September by a High Court injunction, pending their legal challenge.

However, the High Court rejected an application by Matilda Boswell for a judicial review of the eviction decision late last month. Council chiefs

were considering what action to take over the continued planning breach, when the family said they would clear the site and put earth mounds around it. The council has been granted an injunction making it a criminal act for anyone to occupy the site.

It is not clear where the Boswells have gone, but residents in the area said they had heard they may have gone to a pitch in the Kpsm area of Surrey.